REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-39 are pending in the application. Claims 11, 12, 19, 30, 31, 38, and 39 have been amended. No claims have been added. No claims have been canceled.

Applicant has amended the claims, particularly to overcome the Examiner's rejection of indefiniteness under 35 U.S.C. §112 and to more clearly distinguish the invention from the prior art cited. The Examiner initially rejected claims 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 19-21 to particularly point out and distinctly claim, in full, clear, concise and exact terms, the subject matter which Applicant regards as his invention. Claims 19-21 were only rejected on grounds of insufficient antecedent basis. Therefore, in view of the amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 19-21 are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chau et al. further in view of Malkin et al. The Examiner believes that Chau discloses all the limitations of the present invention with the exception of the interface and the host coordinating to tunnel bus events over a network between the host and bus device. However, the Examiner believes Malkin shows how to recreate original packets by decapsulating encapsulated packets. Therefore, the Examiner believes it would be obvious to one skilled in the art that the time the invention was made to apply Malkin et al to the teachings in Chau. Applicant respectfully disagrees. The present invention is directed to solving the problem of communicating with devices on a bus that can only be accessed by hosts locally attached to the devices' respective buses. That is, other network hosts on a network may only access devices on these buses

from remote locations with help and permission of the attached local host. However, communication over these buses is dictated by standards, and often the standard form of communication is not the same as that on a network. Therefore, the present invention is able to interface a network to a bus to allow a host to communicate with a bus device by tunneling bus events over the network between the host and a bus device. Neither Chau nor Malkin disclose an interface that tunnels bus events over a network. Both Chau and Malkin show no more than simple tunneling and the use of well-known tunneling techniques. In view of this Applicant respectfully submits present invention as claimed is not obvious in view of Chau and Malkin.

Examiner rejected claims 8-10, 13, 15-18, 22-29 and 32-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chau and further in view of Klein et al. Applicant respectfully submits for the same reasons given above the present invention as claimed is not obvious in view of Chau and Klein. Although Klein teaches the use of a serial bus, there is still no teaching as to the tunneling of bus events. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits present invention as claimed is not obvious in view of the combination of Chau and Klein.

The Examiner indicated that claims 11-12, 30-31 and 38-39 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claims 11-12, 30-31 and 38-39 to include substantiality limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 and §103(a) have been overcome by the amendments and the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicant

submits that Claims 1-39 as amended are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 23, 2001.

Mara E. Brown — January 23, 2001
Date